

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1065

By Naifeh

A RESOLUTION recognizing Jarvis Varnado for his many accomplishments in the sport of basketball throughout his high school and college careers.

WHEREAS, from time to time, the members of this General Assembly pause in our deliberations to recognize those intrepid athletes whose endeavors on the court of play are a reflection of the grace, poise, and ability of the true athlete; and

WHEREAS, Jarvis Varnado, who recently completed his senior season as an integral player on the Mississippi State University (MSU) men's basketball team, is one such individual who is deserving of recognition; and

WHEREAS, a native of Brownsville, Tennessee, Jarvis Varnado achieved a spectacular level of success during his collegiate career, breaking a number of MSU and National Collegiate Athletics Association (NCAA) records and garnering several awards and accolades; and

WHEREAS, the son of Winston and Janice Varnado, brother of Mario and Jordan Varnado, and grandson of the late Jesse and Louise Kinnon and Ms. Lennie Reed, Jarvis Varnado graduated from Haywood County High School in 2006; and

WHEREAS, during his high school years, Mr. Varnado was a talented member of the varsity basketball team, which was coached first by Jesus Patino and later by Winston Varnado. As a high school student, Jarvis earned All-District and All-State honors for his prowess on the court, a prowess which earned him a four-year scholarship to attend Mississippi State University; and

WHEREAS, during his four years as a MSU Bulldog, Jarvis Varnado, who majored in physical education, broke an incredible number of the school's basketball records, including

becoming the first player in MSU history to record two triple-double outings and becoming MSU's second-ranked rebounder with 1,096 career rebounds; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Varnado also made a deep impact upon the Southeastern Conference (SEC) record books, becoming one of only four players in SEC history to record two or more triple-doubles in a career, leading all active conference players with thirty-three career double-doubles, and establishing the SEC's single-season record with 170 blocked shots, a feat he accomplished twice during his collegiate years; and

WHEREAS, even more impressively, Jarvis Varnado, on February 24, 2010, in a game against the University of Alabama, became the NCAA's all-time leader in blocked shots, eclipsing the mark of 535 established by Wojciech Myrda. Mr. Varnado finished his collegiate career having recorded an incredible 564 blocked shots as a Bulldog; and

WHEREAS, Jarvis Varnado also became the first player in NCAA history to accumulate 1,000 points, 1,000 rebounds, and 500 blocked shots in a career; and

WHEREAS, no stranger to awards and accolades, Mr. Varnado was honored with the 2010 Lefty Driesell Award, which is given to the nation's top defender each year. He also garnered the 2008 Collegeinsider.com National Player of the Year Award, the 2009 Cellular South Howell Trophy Award, and recognition as the SEC Defensive Player of the Year three years in a row; and

WHEREAS, Jarvis Varnado was also named to the All-SEC team by the Associated Press and by the conference coaches, was named as a finalist for the John R. Wooden Award and the Naismith Award, and was twice recognized as the SEC Player of the Week; and

WHEREAS, the excellence attained by this young man points toward his future success not only on the basketball court, but also in all other aspects of life; and

WHEREAS, it is wholly fitting that this body recognize Jarvis Varnado for his many accomplishments as a basketball player; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby recognize record-holder Jarvis Varnado upon his many

accomplishments during his high school and collegiate basketball careers, extending our best wishes for his every future success and happiness.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.